Ben Ray Luján (NM-03) Backgrounder

Βαχκγρουνδ

- **BORN:** Ben Ray Luján, 6/7/1972
- **FAMILY:** Single
- **HOME:** El Rancho, NM
- **EDUCATION:** Attended University of New Mexico (Albuquerque, NM), 1990-1995; B.B.A., New Mexico Highlands University (Las Vegas, NM), 2007
- **PROFESSIONAL:** Director, Administrative Services, New Mexico Department of Cultural Affairs; Chief Financial Officer, New Mexico Department of Cultural Affairs; Deputy Treasurer, State of New Mexico (2002-2004); dealer and supervisor at Pojoaque Pueblo's Cities of Gold Casino (mid-1993-1995); dealer at Harvey's Hotel & Casino near Lake Tahoe, NV (1995-1997); human-resources manager at The Downs at Albuquerque; marketing director of New Mexico Legislative Reports (1999 to 2000)
- **POLITICAL:** Representative, United States House, 2009-present; Chair, New Mexico Public Regulation Commission, 2005-2007; Member, New Mexico Public Regulation Commission, 2004-2008
- **COMMITTEES:** Energy and Commerce Committee – Subcommittee on Communications and Technology, Subcommittee on Health
- **ORGANIZATIONS:** Congressional Hispanic Caucus, Native American Caucus, Natural Gas Caucus. Technology Transfer Caucus (co-founder)

Legislative Record

Luján Has Missed 1.6% Of Roll Call Votes. "From Jan 2009 to Feb 2015, Luján missed 72 of 4,564 roll call votes, which is 1.6%. This is better than the median of 2.2% among the lifetime records of representatives currently serving. The chart below reports missed votes over time." [GovTrack, accessed 2/27/15]

Luján Has Had Four Sponsored Bills Pass The House Of Representatives. None of his sponsored bills have been enacted by the president.

H.R. 1556 (112th): To amend the Omnibus Indian Advancement Act to allow certain land to be used to generate income to provide funding for academic programs, and for other purposes.
Sponsor: Rep. Ben Luján [D-NM3]
Introduced: Apr 14, 2011
Passed House: Jun 18, 2012
H.R. 3254 (111th): Taos Pueblo Indian Water Rights Settlement Act
Sponsor: Rep. Ben Luján [D-NM3]
Introduced: Jul 17, 2009
Passed House: Jan 21, 2010
H.R. 3342 (111th): Aamodt Litigation Settlement Act
Sponsor: Rep. Ben Luján [D-NM3]
Introduced: Jul 24, 2009

Passed House: Jan 21, 2010
H.R. 2729 (111th): To authorize the designation of National Environmental Research Parks by the Secretary of Energy, and for other purposes.
Sponsor: Rep. Ben Luján [D-NM3]
Introduced: Jun 4, 2009
Passed House: Jul 21, 2009
[GovTrack, accessed 2/27/15]

Financial Records

Personal Finances: 2013	
Net Worth	$146,005 to $415,000
Rank	321
Agreements for Future Employment:	0
Compensation:	0
Gifts Received:	0 totaling $0
Payments to Charitable Organizations in lieu of Honoraria:	0 totaling $0
Earned and Non-Investment Income:	0 totaling $0
Liabilities	0 totaling $0 to $0
Positions Held Outside U.S. Government:	1
Financial Transactions	0 totaling $0 to $0
Trip Reimbursements	0

[OpenSecrets, accessed 2/27/15]

Earned Income

Year	Source	Type	Amount
2008	State of New Mexico	Salary PRC Commissioner	$88,123.36

[House Financial Disclosures – Ben Ray Luján, 2008-2013]

Assets & Unearned Income

Year	Asset	Min Value	Max Value	Type of Income	Min Income	Max Income
2013	Congressional Federal Credit Union	$1,001	$15,000	None	None	
2013	El Rancho Home (NM)	$100,001	$250,000	None	None	
2013	NM Public Employees Pension	$15,001	$50,000	Interest	$1,001	$2,500
2013	Wells Fargo Checking	$15,001	$50,000	None	None	
201	Wells Fargo Savings	$15,00	$50,000	None	None	

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2012	Congressional Federal Credit Union	$1,001	$15,000	None	None	
2012	El Rancho Home (NM)	$100,001	$250,000	None	None	
2012	NM Public Employees Pension	$15,001	$50,000	Interest	$1,001	$2,500
2012	Wells Fargo Checking	$15,001	$50,000	None	None	
2012	Wells Fargo Savings	$15,001	$50,000	None	None	
2011	El Rancho Home (NM)	$100,001	$250,000	None	None	
2011	NM Public Employees Pension	$15,001	$50,000	Interest	$1,001	$2,500
2011	Wells Fargo Checking	$15,001	$50,000	None	None	
2010	NM Public Employees Pension	$15,001	$50,000	None	None	
2010	Wells Fargo Checking	$1,001	$15,000	Interest	$1	$200
2009	NM Public Employees Pension	$15,001	$50,000	None		
2009	Wells Fargo Checking	$1,001	$15,000	None		
2008	NM Public Employees Pension	$15,001	$50,000	None		
2008	Wells Fargo Checking	$1,001	$15,000	None		
TOTAL					**$3,004**	**$7,700**

[House Financial Disclosures – Ben Ray Luján, 2008-2013]

Liabilities

Year	**Creditor**	**Date Liability Incurred**	**Type of Liability**	**Min Amount of Liability**	**Max Amount of Liability**
2012	Valley National Bank of Espanola, NM	May-08	Mortgage on El Rancho Home - Loan to the Campaign	$50,001	$100,000
2011	Valley National Bank of Espanola, NM	May-08	Mortgage on El Rancho Home - Loan to the Campaign	$50,001	$100,000

[House Financial Disclosures – Ben Ray Luján, 2008-2013]

Positions

Year	Position	Name of Organization	Notes
2013	Board Member	Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute	
2012	Board Member	Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute	
2011	Board Member	Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute	amended to add in May 2012
2010	Board Member	Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute	amended to add in May 2012
2009	Board Member	Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute	amended to add in May 2012

[House Financial Disclosures – Ben Ray Luján, 2008-2013]

Agreements

Year	Date	Parties To	Terms of Agreement
2012	12/31/2007	Ben Luján and NM Public Employees Pension Plan	NM Public Employees Pension Plan - Benefit plan maintained by State of NM
2011	12/31/2007	Ben Luján and NM Public Employees Pension Plan	NM Public Employees Pension Plan - Benefit plan maintained by State of NM

[House Financial Disclosures – Ben Ray Luján, 2008-2013]

Property Records

As of February 2015, the following is a list of potential properties where Luján may have lived:

Address	Date Range
PO Box 102 Santa Fe, NM 87504-0102 Santa Fe County	2/1999 - 3/2002
RR 1 Box 102 Santa Fe, NM 87506-9743 Santa Fe County	7/1997 - 6/2001
500 W College Pkwy Apt 133 Carson City, NV 89706-1970	5/1997 - 5/1997

Carson City County	
PO Box 4356 Stateline, NV 89449-4356 Douglas County	9/1996 - 9/1996
102 Rt 1 Box Santa Fe, NM 87504 Santa Fe County	12/1995 - 12/1995
102 Rr 1 Santa Fe, NM 87506 Santa Fe County	Unknown

[Nexis Comprehensive Person Report, accessed 2/26/15]

ACCOUNT 33636500
NAME: LUJAN, BEN RAY
ADDRESS: 5 ENTRADA CELEDON Y NESTORA
SANTA FE , NM 875069740
PROPERTY USE: SRES
TAX DISTRICT: 1
PROPERTY ADDRESS: 20 COUNTY RD 84A , PARCEL A T19N R 8E S10 , 1.638 AC ,
DEED BOOK and PAGE: 1524070
MAP CODE: 1-046-113-293-195 FILL1
Assessment Information

2014 Land and Improvement Values		
Land Value	$49306	
Improvements	$104293	
Personal Property	$0	
Alternate Value	$0	
Livestock Value	$0	
Exemptions	$0	
Total Full Value	**$153598.98**	
Total Taxable Value	**$51199.66**	* net value/3

[redacted]

[Santa Fe County Assessor search, accessed 3/24/15]

There are no records of DC property held by Luján.

NOTE: Further research necessary into Luján's property ownership history. Nexis person search has not provided clarity on Luján's current or more recent properties and there is overlap with his father, Ben Luján Sr. Additionally, Santa Fe County online property records appear to only allow searches by address, not name.

Associated Entities

As of February 2015, Luján is potentially associated with the following entities.

B & B Construction Corp Of Espanola Santa Fe, NM
Ben's Barber Shop PO Box 334 Velarde, NM 87582-0334

[Nexis Comprehensive Person Report, accessed 2/26/15]

NOTE: Further research necessary into Luján's associated entities. Initial searches indicate no hard link to Ben's Barber Shop and that B&B Construction Corp of Espanola was owned by his father, Ben Luján Sr.

Criminal and Traffic Violation Record

As of February 2015, Luján is associated with two criminal or traffic violations. [Nexis Criminal Records search, accessed 2/26/15]

Date	Case Type	Jurisdiction	Disposition	Source
3/8/05	Veh Insured/Owner Must Have Evid Of Financial Resp	Santa Fe Magistrate	Dismissed – Proof Shown	Nexis
3/6/03	Speeding – Petite Misdemeanor	Santa Fe Magistrate	No Contest	Nexis

[Nexis Criminal Records search, accessed 2/26/15]

NOTE: Further research necessary to determine whether Luján has any additional criminal or traffic violations. New Mexico online court records do not provide additional details on the above cases. Online search shows numerous other records for Ben Luján – further research needed to determine if those cases are tied to Ben Ray Luján or his father or someone else.

No Evidence of Bankruptcy, Judgments & Liens

As of February 2015, Luján is not associated with any bankruptcy, judgments, or liens. [New Mexico Courts Case Lookup, accessed 2/26/15]

Date	Case Type	Case Name	Jurisdiction	Disposition	Notes
3/29/06	Civil Complaint	Max W. Coll v. First American	Santa Fe District	Open complaint.	One of 9 defendants in litigation with NM PRC. No activity since 2012.
4/27/06	Civil Complaint	Murphy v. Fidelity National	Santa Fe District	Open complaint.	One of 18 defendants in litigation with NM PRC. No activity since 2011.
6/29/06	Civil Complaint	Arens v. Rushton	Santa Fe District	Dismissed for lack of prosecution.	One of 7 defendants in litigation.
7/14/06	Civil Complaint	City of Santa Fe v. Santa Fe	Santa Fe District	Stipulated Dismissal	One of 19 defendants in litigation with City of Santa Fe
8/17/07	Civil Complaint	Richard Arens v. Morris Chavez	Santa Fe District	Dismissed for lack of prosecution.	One of 9 defendants in litigation.

NOTE: Further research necessary into whether Luján or Luján's associated entities had bankruptcies, judgments or liens – there is at least one lien against a Ben Luján in New Mexico in the 1990s, though it appears to be related to a construction company and is likely related to Luján's father.

Political Donations

According to the National Institute on Money in State Politics, Luján has given $21,216 to state-level candidates.
NOTE: Additional research needed. Many of these contributions are likely attributable to Ben Luján Sr.

Recipient	Office	Result	Party	Date	Amount
Stefanics, Elizabeth T	Senate	Won	Democrat	Unknown - 1992	$50
Park, Al	House	Won	Democrat	10/24/2000	$150
Rodella, Debbie A	House	Won	Democrat	10/25/2000	$150
Urioste, Mario	House	Won	Democrat	10/20/2000	$150
Miera, Rick	House	Won	Democrat	10/20/2000	$100
Regensberg, Bengie	House	Won	Democrat	10/17/2000	$100
Rios, Benjamin B	House	Won	Democrat	10/25/2002	$100
Saavedra, Henry (Kiki)	House	Won	Democ	10/30/2000	$100

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Montano, Salomon	House	Lost - General Election	Democrat	10/2/2002	$200
Urioste, Mario	House	Won	Democrat	9/28/1998	$800
Long, Charles	House	Lost - Primary Election	Democrat	5/7/2012	$1,500
Long, Charles	House	Lost - Primary Election	Democrat	6/1/2012	$800
Begaye, Ray	House	Lost - General Election	Democrat	9/20/2012	$1,000
Begaye, Ray	House	Lost - General Election	Democrat	11/2/2012	$500
Cote, Nathan	House	Won	Democrat	9/17/2012	$1,500
Dodge Jr, George	House	Won	Democrat	8/9/2012	$1,000
Dodge Jr, George	House	Won	Democrat	9/10/2012	$500
Oneill, Bill B	Senate	Won	Democrat	8/16/2011	$1,000
Richard, Stephanie Garcia	House	Won	Democrat	9/16/2012	$1,000
Ferrary, Joanne J	House	Won	Democrat	9/15/2012	$500
Garcia, Mary Jane	Senate	Lost - General Election	Democrat	10/22/2012	$500
Lundstrom, Patricia A (Patty)	House	Won	Democrat	6/24/2011	$500
Chavez, Ernest	House	Won	Democrat	5/9/2012	$300
Rodella, Debbie A	House	Won	Democrat	5/12/1998	$150
Silva, Daniel P	House	Won	Democrat	5/12/1998	$100
Luján, Ben	Public Regulation Commission	Not Up For Election	Democrat	5/1/2006	$487
Barreras, Andrew J	House	Won	Democrat	10/14/2008	$1,000
Barreras, Andrew J	House	Won	Democrat	3/16/2008	$500
Lundstrom, Patricia A	House	Won	Democrat	5/22/2008	$1,000
Lundstrom, Patricia A	House	Won	Democrat	2/21/2007	$130
Barela, Elias	House	Won	Democrat	9/29/2008	$1,000
Nunez, Andrew	House	Won	Democrat	5/19/2008	$500
Nunez, Andrew	House	Won	Democrat	10/2/2008	$300
Begaye, Ray	House	Won	Democrat	5/20/2008	$200
Begaye, Ray	House	Won	Democrat	10/16/2008	$200
Begaye, Ray	House	Won	Democ	5/20/2008	$200

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Gonzales, Roberto J (Bobby)	House	Won	Democrat	2/1/2007	$534
Campos Ii, Jose A	House	Won	Democrat	10/13/2008	$500
Cote, Nathan P	House	Won	Democrat	5/17/2008	$500
Chasey, Gail	House	Won	Democrat	5/9/2007	$430
Madalena, James Roger	House	Won	Democrat	10/3/2008	$200
Madalena, James Roger	House	Won	Democrat	5/15/2008	$200
Campos, Pete	Senate	Won	Democrat	8/2/2008	$100
Marks, Jason A	Public Regulation Commission	Won	Democrat	10/10/2007	$100
Denish, Diane D	Governor / Lieutenant Governor	Not Up For Election	Democrat	11/5/2007	$50
Vigil, Robert E	Treasurer	Won	Democrat	5/20/2002	$200
Catechis, Christopher Spyros	House	Lost - General Election	Democrat	7/28/2002	$135
Total					**$21,216**

[National Institute on Money in State Politics, accessed 2/26/15]

According to CQ Moneyline, Luján has given $1,782 to federal political candidates.

Date	**Candidate/Committee**	**Party**	**Amount**
11/4/2008	Obama For America (Presidential)	11/4/2008	$250
10/22/2008	Harry Teague For Congress (NM/02)	10/22/2008	$250
10/22/2008	Harry Teague For Congress (NM/02)	10/22/2008	$250
10/7/2008	Friends Of Barbara Boxer (CA/Senate)	10/7/2008	$250
9/21/2006	Madrid For Congress (NM/01)	9/21/2006	$300
10/10/2008	Udall For US All (NM/Senate)	10/10/2008	$200
8/29/2012	People For Ben (NM/03)	8/29/2012	$282
Total			**$1,782**

[CQ Political Moneyline, accessed 2/26/15]

Searches Performed in this Document & Notes For Additional Research

DATABASE	**NOTES (e.g., search term(s), URL, etc.)**
Nexis – News	Notes: US Newspapers & Wires, Ben Ray Luján from 5/11/11-present: 2704 US Newspapers & Wires, Ben Ray Luján prior to 5/11/11: 1963 (majority are

	correct Luján) All News, All Languages, Ben Ray Luján AND ATLEAST4(Luján) from 5/11/10: 2905 All News, All Languages, Ben Ray Luján before 5/11/10: 2530
Nexis – Comprehensive Person Report	Luján Ben! R! in New Mexico
Nexis – Bankruptcy, Judgments, & Liens	Luján Ben
Nexis – Criminal Records	Luján Ben R!
CQ Political Moneyline (Verify via FEC)	Searched Ben Luján on Moneyline & FEC. Additional research should be done on leadership PAC - https://www.opensecrets.org/pacs/pacgot.php?cycle=2014&cmte=C00517235
National Institute on Money in State Politics (Follow the Money)	Searched Ben Ray Luján on Follow the Money
NM Secretary of State Business Search	UCC Filings Search on Luján, B&B Construction, Ben's Barber Shop https://portal.sos.state.nm.us/BFS/online/Uccsearch
NM Courts	Searched "Luján Ben" & "Luján Ben R" https://caselookup.nmcourts.gov/caselookup/app?component=dl0&page=SearchDetail&service=direct&session=T
NM Public Regulation Commission	Agendas & minutes are only available online back to 2011 – would need to inquire with PRC if prior years are retained: http://www.nmprc.state.nm.us/administrative-services/previous-agendas-minutes.html
NM Secretary of State	Need to request financial disclosures from PRC days - http://www.sos.state.nm.us/Public_Records_And_Publications/Request_a_Prior_Year_Financial_disclosure_Form.aspx
DC Courts	Searched B Luján
DC Office of Tax & Revenue – Recorder of Deeds	Searched Luján - https://portal3.recordfusion.com/countyweb/disclaimer.do
Personal Financial Disclosures – House of Representatives	Reviewed PFDs from 2008-2013. Additional analysis needed but filings are fairly straightforward. Some discrepancies over years – need to figure out property records & mortgage. Also need to review PFDs of any staffers filing in Luján's office.
Legislative Record/GovTrack	Reviewed missed votes record and passed legislation. Additional work could be done on cosponsored legislation, committee vote record and bipartisanship/ideology rankings.

NOTE: Additional research could/should be done into Luján's record pre-NMPRC.

Important Note on This Document

Please keep in mind at all times that this is preliminary research, and further research will be necessary on Luján. It is strongly recommended that you contact the DCCC's Research Department for more information and in the event that you intend to use material from this report for public communications purposes. Thank you.